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WO 02/01405 A1

(54) Title: A PEOPLE NETWORKING AND LOCATING SYSTEM

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a people networking system (PNS). The system allows users to locate people with the same interests as them, or to find people who would satisfy a current need (e.g. a job vacancy). The system can make use of existing telecommunication and networking services as well as the Internet, WAP, GPS, and other protocols to provide location information. Alternatively, various locations may have card readers installed at which users update their "location" field in the database by swiping their card through the reader. Micromaps can also be provided to further pinpoint the user's location. Each user of the system provides a personal profile of their business, social or private interests. The users may login to the system via an Internet access device or a mobile phone and search the database for compatible matches may be obtained from either the system database or other participating networking services (eg a dating agency). Any matches may be sent a text message in which the sender's anonymity is preserved. The user may also subscribe to various services that deliver information depending of the user's location. Such services may deliver information regarding movies, taxis, performances, traffic conditions, etc.

A PEOPLE NETWORKING AND LOCATING SYSTEM

1. Copyright

The disclosure of this patent document contains material that is subject to copyright protection.

2. Field of Invention

SatelX is a system that matches, locates and networks people.

This system builds on the matchmaking aspects of current Internet Dating and Interest Group Services to include: matchmaking for business or general social purposes; a hub for different communication protocols for members of these groups; and real time member location information. The system builds on current Location Based services by providing a platform independent framework that can read all telecommunications protocols, isolate the relevant information, process this information and respond to its users accordingly.

3. Rationale

Consumer mobility has driven technology into a wireless era, with emphasis on information access and speed, at the expense of information content. Consequently, remarkable technologies that provide speed and access remain non-viable in the general market because they are of little use to the mass and tend to be expensive novelties.

The challenge is to provide useful content for the wireless era.

People networking is big business and the Internet is the leading tool for electronic people networking. Connecting with the right people/business is at the heart of the telecommunications industry. Whether personal or professional, networking is important to most of us. Professional societies, business meetings/conventions, social clubs, (mobile)phones, dating services, phone directories, emails, maps and many other devices facilitate our ability to connect with others.

Nonetheless the prior art systems in communication leave us helpless in many respects. In a wireless era the power of the Internet to network people must be translated into immediate, face to face opportunities for people to network on the move.

3.1 People Matching

As successful as the Internet Dating service has been to our capacity to meet others, it is limited to virtual communications and has not accounted for business networking opportunities. Matchmaking remains via the Internet and emails until we actually meet our newfound 'friend' or business colleague. The popularity of "Singles Balls" testifies to the public demand for easier/casual meeting environments.

Ironically, existing environments lose the benefits of Internet facilitated meeting because we don't know who is who and what interests/thoughts/intentions surround us. We may be at the bar oblivious to the person next to us, and that person is in fact the best candidate for a job we seek to fill. Our perfect match may be four steps to the left and we will never know.

Everyone is tired of the 'meat-market' mentality of bars etc. where any approach for a conversation will likely be perceived as a "come-on" or conversely sometimes it would be useful to wear a sign above our heads saying - "I am happily with a partner and I seek only intelligent conversation."

3.2 Locating

The 'Location' field in the database is what brings all the people matching and networking services into the real world. The ability to switch this on or off or determine who has access to this information provides the privacy that current GPS and other location based technologies do not. Further, this simple solution to location information makes SatelX viable now, enabling users to access the service via standard mobile phones.

4. The Product

Current communication applications do not address these said requirements. SatelX caters for these and many more services, in effect providing electronic noticeboards on mobile phones and in real venues, registering real locations, compatibilities and identities of participants, information services relevant to user location as well as business and personal directories.

4.1 Infrastructure

The key to SatelX is the unique application of a changeable 'Location' field in a database. Thus a network of SatelX recognised landmarks/icons is required, some bearing a SatelX code and/or card reader. Computer stations are set up peripherally within the venue. The network is ultimately connected to the SatelX server via the Internet, blue tooth or other communications protocol. Links to participating business websites will be placed on the SatelX site.

Access infrastructure is minimal. In addition to standard Internet access, technology has been developed for SatelX that allows users to login to the SatelX server directly via any standard mobile phone. Future means of access will include, but is not limited to magnetic-strip identification cards, eftpos machines, poker machines and any wireless internet access device.

4.2 People Networking Services

The generic term used by SatelX for an existing computer based dating service (including but not limited to Internet dating services), business networking service, Internet networking service (eg Yahoo Groups), other databases or any host that brings people in contact with others who share similar interests is a People Networking Service (PNS).

PNS groups comprise of members of a PNS. They may already know each other or otherwise meet each other through the PNS.

A user's location-information is publicly accessible only by certain members of certain PNS groups as nominated by the SatelX user. Access may require a password. Only those who share membership to the same PNS (and have the necessary password if required) will be privy to that person's service-profile and location.

So, for example, two or more Internet based dating services may compete for clientele at the same venues. Someone who is a member of a rowing club will only be able to see if other members of their rowing club are out that night. On an even smaller scale, people may choose to simply register their own 'club' of friends/colleagues for notice board purposes (see later) to which only other members are allowed access.

PNS profiles may include, but are not limited to, a portrait photo, a description (including demographics and interests), intentions of an individual and what type of profile that individual seeks (see Diagram G). Business profiles will include the member's picture.

professional orientation and list of those whom the member seeks for business. Individual addresses or phone-numbers will not be recorded on SatelX for privacy/safety reasons.

Dual membership to a variety of services will of course be common. Users can create numerous profiles against one means of access.

Of course new membership to the larger PNS companies will be available to patrons 24 hours per day, which is likely to present significant membership increases for the services, especially if they chose to market their service with for example, male/female models at bars/nightclubs etc.

4.3 The Location Field

The 'Location' field may be a country, town, suburb, venue or even a specific point within a venue.

Examples of use of the Location field:

- a) Our friends are on their way but plans have changed, which means contacting all of them. We simply login to our private group profile on SatelX, type a message and type in the code or name of the venue of our new destination. SatelX alerts the other members of our change of plans.
- b) It would be useful to give each of our children a mobile phone 'just in case' they get lost at a show or in the shopping mall, but that's not always feasible nor practical. A 'smart card' however, combined with strategically located readers is a practical alternative.
- c) We often stand lost in large venues, looking for that item we found so easily on the Internet but now eludes us in the real world.
- d) A confidential record of a person's whereabouts during the previous 24 hours presents certain safety benefits and crucial information in locating missing persons.
- e) We have access to many information services. The addition of a location field to our interest fields filters this information to provide information that is relevant to our interests *and* location.
- f) Decisions on whether to 'go out' often depend on who else is out that night. Login to SatelX and search by people or venues. With a few venues participating, the user will be able to move among venues in order to meet their 'match'. The capacity for search combinations is endless.

These are all aspects of daily living for which prior art does not account.

4.3.1 Specific Locating via Micro-maps

As well as the automatic 'mapping' afforded by the participating venues, other people locating applications for this invention include the construction of micro-maps.

Specific points are identified by use of the unique 'Micromap' facility, wherein digital maps are constructed from architectural plans (or by other means) of actual venues. These digital maps are grided with SateLx recognised points of reference. A network of actual icons bearing a SateLx location code (some with card readers), enables users to login their exact location and cate others or businesses within the venue. The venue may be, but is not limited to, a shopping mall, a building, a sporting stadium or an exhibition venue –eg. Tradeshows etc.

Venues for events could utilise SateLX by simply contracting the construction of a micro-map of their venue and incorporating magnetic strips on tickets. When the ticket is swiped it automatically registers the holder at that location on the micro-map of the venue. Some may prefer to give the child their own SateLX card that would be useable at any venue in the world - never lose them again.

With the infrastructure in place, further potential includes the ability to locate certain businesses etc. Login to SateLX, type in "books" and all the bookshops in the vicinity will 'light-up' on the micro-map.

4.4 Noticeboards

The simplest database service will be the "SateLX Noticeboard", where users can leave messages for others against the user's name. Password access is optional. This allows friends/colleagues to leave messages for each other on their SateLX notice board – where they are heading next, general opinion on the night's progress, any new project requirements etc.

4.5 Advertising

SateLX will also provide new avenues for advertising, bringing the Internet into a popular social setting, far beyond the environment of Internet cafes.

Product Benefits for:

Participating Services

- Increased exposure and therefore additional revenue from advertising
- Increased membership revenue
- A 'business card' for members
- Percentage of card revenue (eg service membership does not automatically entitle members to the card, which will need to be purchased additionally)
- Breaks down the stigmas associated with Internet Dating
- Joint marketing opportunities with the venues

Venues

- Added value to the venue
- Increased patronage and patron loyalty
- Opportunities to host 'singles nights', business networking events etc.
- Joint marketing opportunities with the Dating Service

The Consumer

- Able to see who is where before leaving home
- Ideal for travellers and business people with little time to waste in 'meat markets' – see who is where as you arrive in a new town
- Solves the historic challenge in striking up conversation - SatelX adds to the benefits of Internet dating by providing the opportunity to step beyond the Internet. People can use more than the cover to judge a book and have something to say before even approaching their potential 'match'
- Excellent for meeting new business associates and general networking
- Answers questions of sexuality, motivations and much more
- Does not take the fun out of meeting people, just the initial embarrassment/awkwardness.
- Leave messages for friends/colleagues.
- Provides safety in terms of 'last seen' records and records of who accessed the user's profile within a given period.
- Locate lost children readily via the SatelX micro-map facility

SatelX

- Licence revenue
- Advertising revenue
- Percentage of card/membership revenue
- Joint marketing opportunities

Commercial-in-Confidence**SatelX**

Related patents: US Pat No. 6061681 – “On-line dating service for locating and matching people based on user-selected search criteria”

Summary

SatelX is a dynamic, platform-independent, rules-based people matching and locating service. It sits on top of location based technologies such as GPS, Bluetooth, WAP and Wireless Packet Data. See Diagrams A and B

The key to this system is the use of a user controlled ‘Location’ field in an intelligent database that change in real time as the user moves into or from a particular location. The change may be initiated by the user, or automatic. This field becomes a highly important factor in ranking the compatibility of two users in a matching service, delivering location relevant information services to the user or simply informing group members of each other’s whereabouts.

The secondary aspect to SatelX is the use of ‘Micromaps’. These are digital plans of actual venues or other areas with detailed location points that correspond to the location field of the SatelX database.

Using links to internal and external profile-matching databases, SatelX delivers electronic people-networking to people on the move. This service enables the user to immediately locate and network with people they know or may want to know. SatelX alerts the user’s mobile phone or other device when someone who matches the user’s selection criteria walks into the same venue as the user’s location or into a venue on the other side of town, whatever is specified by the user. See diagram C for flowchart on how to use SatelX. The service further lends itself to the provision of information services that are location relevant, such as entertainment, seminars, conferences or even traffic conditions within the user’s vicinity or along the user’s micromap route to work.

With this service, the user chooses everything: who can access their profile or location, who they want to meet or stay in touch with, what information services they want (eg bands, films or other entertainment).

SatelX is accessible via standard mobile phones, all WAP devices and the Internet.

Claims

1. A computer-implemented system for locating people in transit and matching them to information services or other people, the system comprising:
 - a) a Central intelligent database and authentication server connectable to the Internet or any such method of distributed microcomputer internetworking as may be deemed appropriate;
 - b) a plurality of local servers connectable to the main database and authentication server via a distributed area network, each of the local servers accessible via a telephone connected to a telephone network;
 - c) a computer application that reads text messages from mobile phones and translates this text into information that is processed by an intelligent database;

- d) a computer application that sends useful information from the said database to mobile phones;
- e) a computer application that translates Global Position Co-ordinates into information that relates to the whereabouts of actual venues, business locations and other data useful to the average person in finding other people or businesses.
- f) a computer application that translates Blue Tooth Co-ordinates into information that relates to the whereabouts of actual venues, business locations and other data useful to the average person in finding other people or businesses.
- g) a computer application that translates Radio Packet Co-ordinates into information that relates to the whereabouts of actual venues, business locations and other data useful to the average person in finding other people or businesses.
- h) a computer application that translates location Co-ordinates in any form into information that relates to the whereabouts of actual venues, business locations and other data useful to the average person in finding other people or businesses.
- i) a database that contains a changing 'Location' field that relates to the location of the user and is changeable by the user
- j) a database and Website with links to existing and potential internal and external databases of user information;
- k) a database that is flexible, enabling users to determine their own fields, parameters of these fields and whether the fields are 'on' or 'off' during use;
- l) a database that records the user's information for whatever period specified by the user, providing certain safety services to the user;
- m) digital maps of general and specific areas taken from architectural plans (or by other means) of actual venues or regions that contain location points relevant to a searchable database;
- n) a computer based 'noticeboard', the web interface for using SatelX. See Diagram D
- o) chat-room service similar in nature to existing Internet 'chat-room' facilities available on the Internet;
- p) links to various information services that provide information relevant to the user's interests and location.
- q) a network of poker machines that is linked to the SatelX server.
- r) a network of card-readers used for authentication and identification purposes;
- s) a magnetic user identification card for use in the card readers;
- t) a network of SatelX recognised location points displaying codes relevant to that location

wherein the combination of each of the local servers, means of access and the main computer provides for a particular user¹ to update at least a portion of the database.

2. A system as in Claim 1 wherein the combination of each of the local servers, means of access and the main computer provides for a particular user to search at least a portion of the database and locate other users at that present time.
3. A system as in Claim 1 wherein the combination of each of the local servers, means of access and the main computer provides for a particular user to leave messages for other users on at least a portion of the database.
4. A system as in Claim 1 wherein the combination of each of the local servers, means of access and the main computer provides for a particular user to establish statistics in relation to venues.
5. A system as in Claim 1 wherein the user information is recorded for a minimum period for safety reasons. Thus, it provides 'last seen' information, a considerable safety aspect and aid to locating missing persons.

¹ A user is any person who has 'logged' onto the said network system, via local servers or a card reader.

6. A system as in Claim 1 that enables users to create numerous profiles against one means of access. Thus, a user may switch profiles 'on' or 'off' via one mobile phone, smart card, wireless Internet access device or other device.
7. A system as in Claim 1 that enables users to login to SateIX via any mobile phone, receive ranked lists of compatible matches in relation to their user profile and current location, and contact preferred matches.
8. A system that links user-identification software for poker machines to the SateIX server or any server that can otherwise use that information to identify a user's compatibility ranking against a set of characteristics.
9. A system that links user-identification software for poker machines to the SateIX server or any server that can otherwise use that information to locate that user.
10. A system as in Claim 1 that incorporates the unique use of poker machines to access the Internet directly or by other means.
11. A system as in Claim 1 that incorporates the unique use of poker machines to access the SateIX server or other similar servers via the Internet, directly or by other means.
12. The use of a 'Location' field in an intelligent database that relates to actual venues or points within a venue,
 - a) The locations being programmed into the database in formats readable by various telecommunication protocols
 - b) The location fields changeable by the user via a login procedure
 - c) The location field being used in conjunction with other user characteristics to rank user compatibility with other users per user location. See Diagram E
13. The use of mobile text, or Short Message Service, to communicate to a database for the purpose of matching a user's character profile and/or location against other users.
14. The use of identification cards in conjunction with venues, people-matching and locating databases.
15. The use of card readers in conjunction with people matching and locating databases.
16. The construction of computer based 'micro-maps' of areas which detail:
 - a) sections
 - b) areas of a town/city or other region
 - c) businesses
 - d) venues
 - e) seating
 - f) travel routes
 - g) any practical details as may be required of the map

for the purpose of pin-pointing the location of a user within the given map area to within an appropriately small proximity radius.

17. A network of database recognised location points displaying codes relevant to that location that can be used in conjunction with a database 'Location' field to locate an individual or business.
18. The construction of a micromap service as in Claim 9 for the purpose of providing information services to the user relevant to the user's interests and distance from the user.

DIAGRAM 'A'

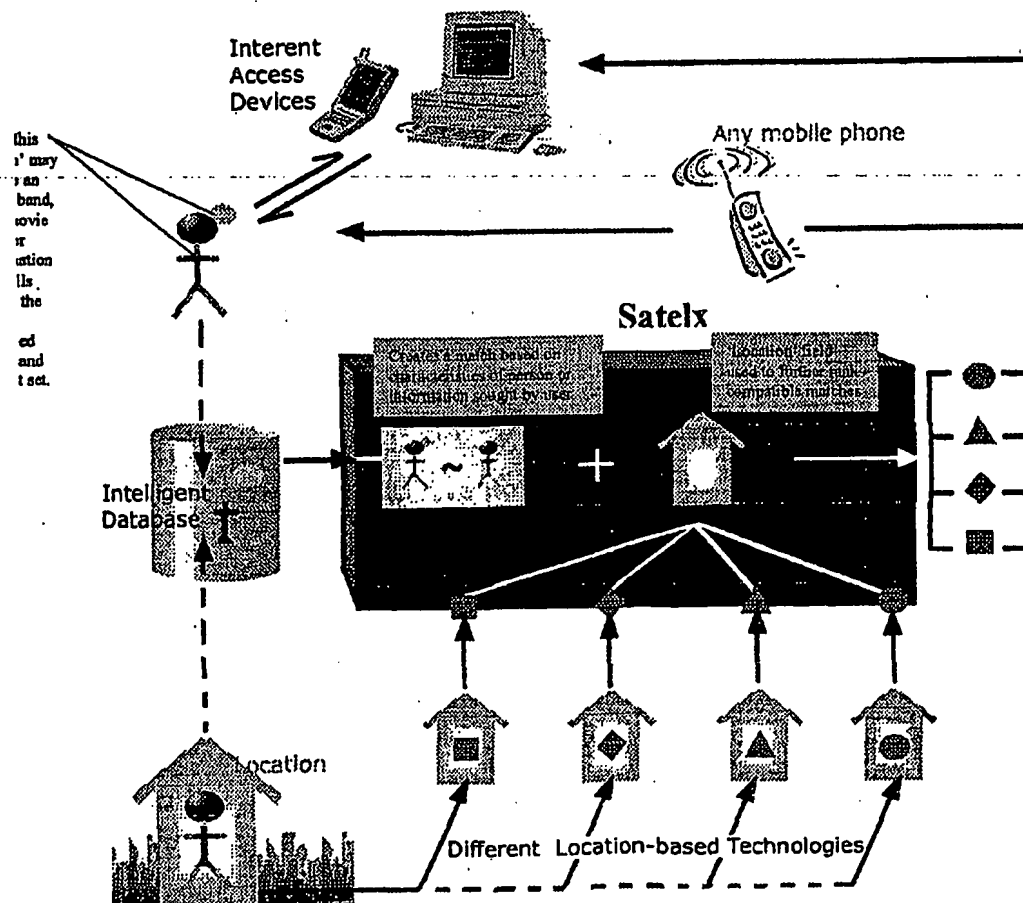
What is it?

Satelx is a dynamic, platform-independent, rules-based people locating system.

Using links to profile-matching databases, Satelx delivers electronic people-networking and other location-relevant information services to people on the move.

Satelx is a service framework that incorporates location-based technologies such as GPS, Bluetooth, WAP and Wireless Packet Data - it does not compete with these technologies, it sits on top of them and gives them consumer value.

Communications Diagram for Satelx



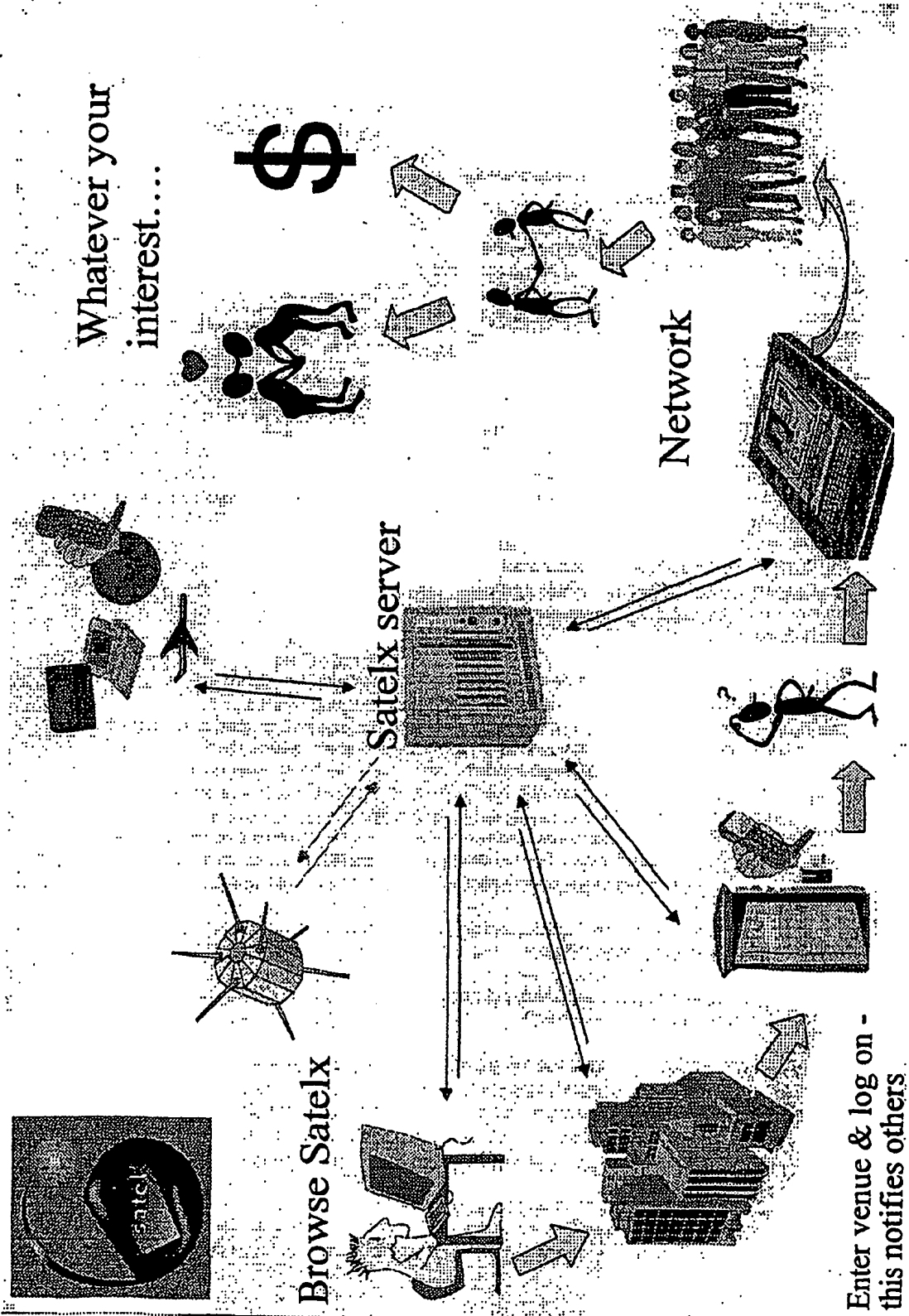
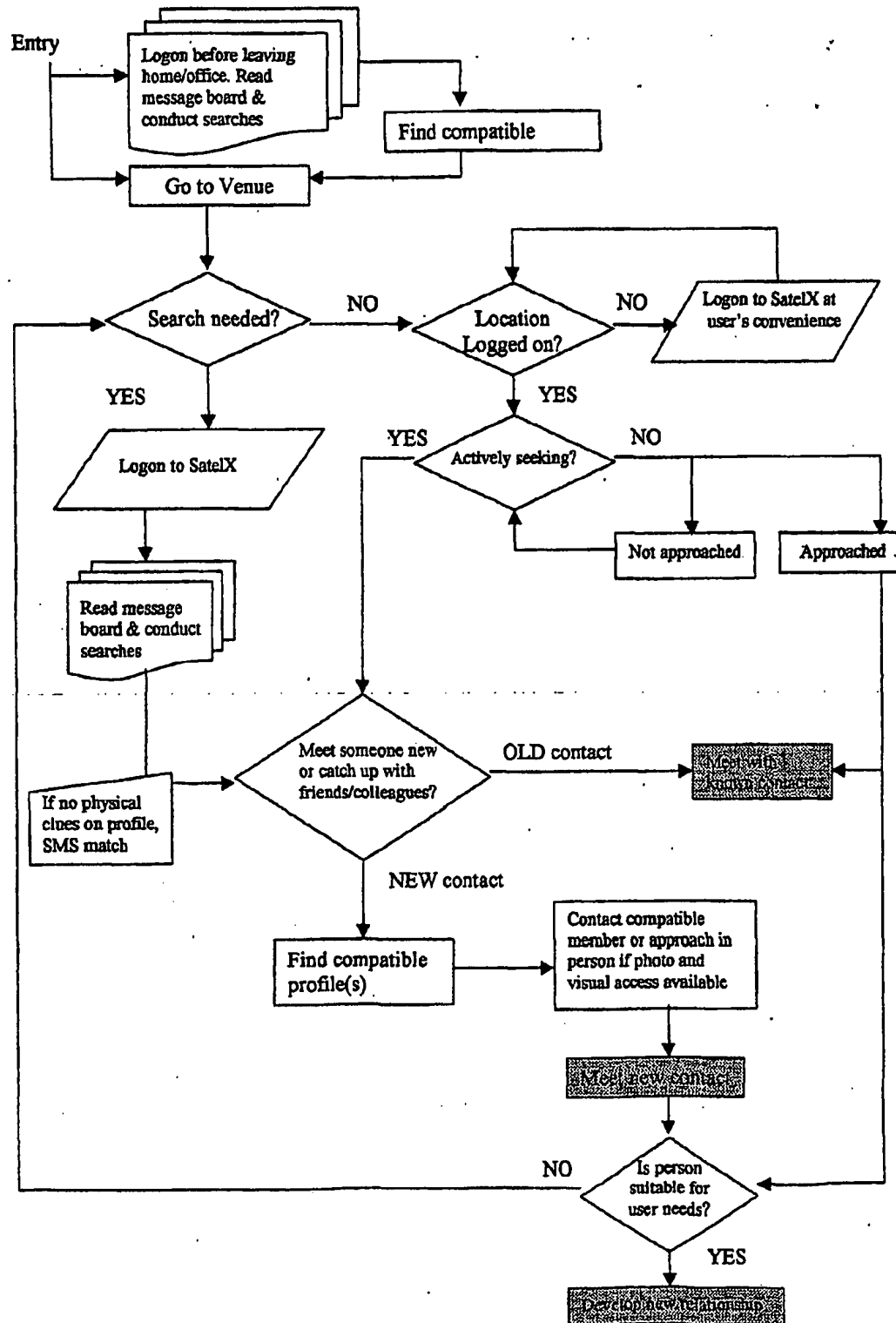


Diagram C: HOW IT WILL WORK



Procedure

On login, access and message parameters are automatically set for that member and other users in relation to that member. Members are able to screen who has access to their messages or location by use of passwords and registration details listing possible recipients. These filters are changeable at any time by the user.

Below is an example Satelx screen. Standard mobile phones can log onto Satelx and read/write messages, but the display differs and any Internet sites still need to be accessed via Internet access devices.

Member: John Smith
User Number: 10045
Current location: The Nellington

Name: Search

MEMBER SEARCH LEAVE MESSAGE MICROMAP HOME PAGE

UserN	Pseudonym	PNS	City	Last seen	Time	Comment
12678	Sarah E	RSVP	Syd	Home	1222	Exchange hotel tonight!!
11724	Brady Bunch	E-noticeboard	Syd.	Stan's house	1332	Staff BBQ tomorrow
14654	Jules Smith	Micromap	Can	PC3, Belcon	1421	*****
13415	Footy Fredfoot	Micromap	Mel	MCG, Bay13	1435	North supporters only!
15847	Tommy Smith	E-noticeboard	Can	Ben's	1547	Password needed
12843	Jellybaby	RSVP	Syd.	Here	2000	Look'n for fun☺
12678	Sarah E	RSVP	Syd.	Exchange	2011	Good conversation only
10601	Krazykid	Satelx	Can	Hills Tavern	2100	Where are you Johnno?
16645	Nightsapes	E-noticeboard	Syd.	N/a		Bands in town tonight
16789	Sportslife	E-noticeboard	Aus.	N/a		Results for 2/11/00
12698	Sheena	RSVP	Syd.	Novotel	2135	Up for a cocktail?
10045	USER	Satelx	Syd.	Cnr Bay/Hall	2149	Taxi to the city
19902	Bradley M	Bhueskyfrog	Syd.	The Bridge	2241	SMS me!!
12645	Galagirl	RSVP	Syd.	Olim's Bar	now	33, divorced, secure.

*PNS is People Networking Service

Note: All messages are available via the Internet and standard mobile SMS. Cells with darker borders provide links to other Internet sites, maps or e-mail functions. Micromaps are plans of larger venues that enable members to pinpoint locations of people or businesses. These will be available in 2002. All participating venues have Internet access (Kiosks) available, although it is predicted that wireless Internet access devices will be commonplace by 2003.

In this example the user John Smith is a member of

- Dating agency 'RSVP'
- Sateix
- 2 information services

In this example:

Line 1 – John receives messages from RSVP members who meet his selection criteria (gender, city, age, interests etc.), unless otherwise screened by the sender. Sarah E. is letting male RSVP members between know that she is heading to the Exchange hotel later that night. In Line 7 we see she gets there at 8:11 pm. John can also click on the Exchange Hotel cell to see some pictures of the venue, where it is, drink prices and special events. He can also reply to her general message.

Line 2 – this is John's work group. Stan reminds others in the group that the staff BBQ is on tomorrow. This is an e-noticeboard message, meaning that there is more to read by clicking on the 'comment' cell. Details of the BBQ, who is bringing what, who can/cannot make it etc.

Line 3 – This Micromap function is available in 2002. Jules is John's daughter. She simply swiped her card through a reader at a shopping mall to let everyone on her list know where she is. If she had swiped it through a shop's eftpos machine, it would have registered Jules at that shop. Clicking on the location "PC3, Belcon Mall" displays a micromap of the mall and identifies Jules' location – see example diagram below.

Line 4 – John is a member of the North Melbourne football club. The club subscribed to Sateix, allowing its members varying levels of access to Sateix services, the simplest being club messages. Footy Fredfoot posted an SMS on Sateix for all club members - he is at the MCG, Bay 13 Row A. In 2002 a micromap of the stadium will show John the best access route to Bay 13. See below.

Line 5 – Tommy is John's son. Whilst John can see where Tommy logged in, John needs a password to read Tommy's messages. This gives Tommy a little privacy yet it lets dad (and all Tommy's mates) know where he is.

Line 6 – RSVP member Jellybaby meets John's criteria and his mobile phone is notified the moment she swipes her card on entering the venue. He then looks up her profile on the Internet Kiosk at the bar, sees the picture and identifies Jellybaby sitting at a table. He can leave a message for Jellybaby, or even speak to her directly. Internet access via Kiosks at venues will cost between \$1-2 per 5 minutes.

John need not wait to be notified of new RSVP arrivals and may instead simply view a list of all RSVP members currently at the same or nearby venues. Conversely, his last RSVP contact may not want him to know her whereabouts and so blocks this information.

Line 7 – Sarah E. arrives at the Exchange Hotel. She has a partner and simply wants to meet new people.

Line 8 – message is from Krazykid. He is in Canberra and logged on at Hills Tavern at 9pm. A simple message requiring a simple reply, not an e-noticeboard message. John did not make it to Canberra...

Lines 9 & 10 – John subscribes to these information services.

Line 11 – Sheena met John previously. She sent a private message to him via Sateix.

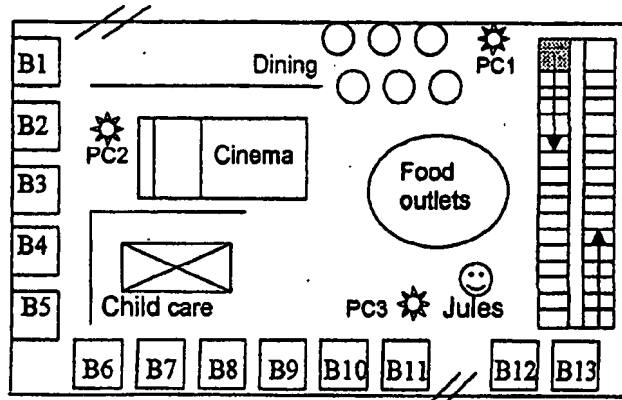
Line 12 – Sateix is negotiating the involvement of prominent taxi companies in some cities. An SMS via Sateix will register the user's location and destination details immediately on the taxi database without needing to go through a base-operator. The closest taxicab collects the customer.

Line 13 – Services such as www.blueskyfrog.com.au offer email and SMS interface services between standard mobiles and the Internet.

Line 14 - By clicking 'Galagirl' John can go straight to her RSVP profile on the RSVP site. If he likes what he sees, he returns to his Satelx screen and assesses the venue by clicking on 'Olim's Bar'. He can also reply to Galagirl. John's message will go to her mobile phone immediately, via the Satelx site and also sit on her message board for 24 hours.

The search facility enables you to type in the RSVP member profile and learn where that member is, if they are registered with the Satelx service *and* they wish to be located

Shopping Mall



Sports Stadium

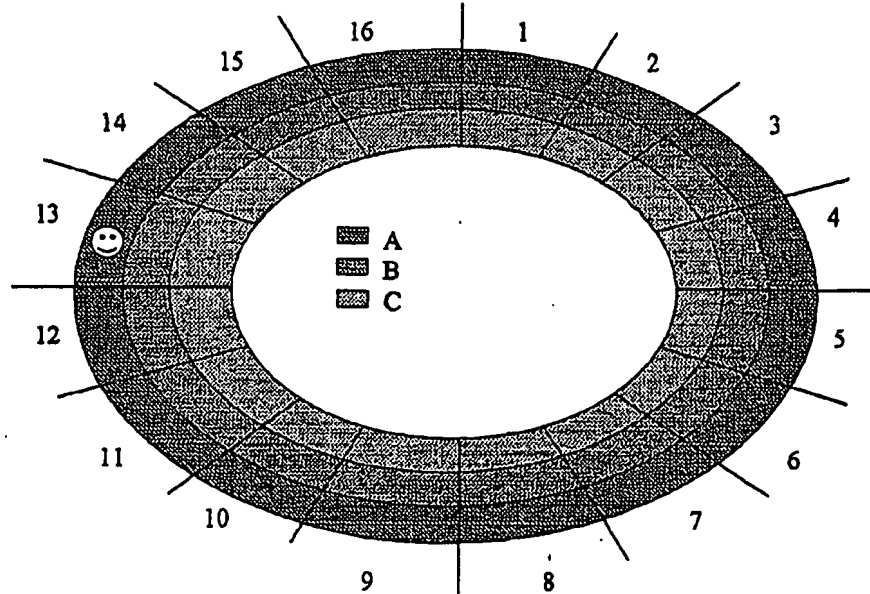
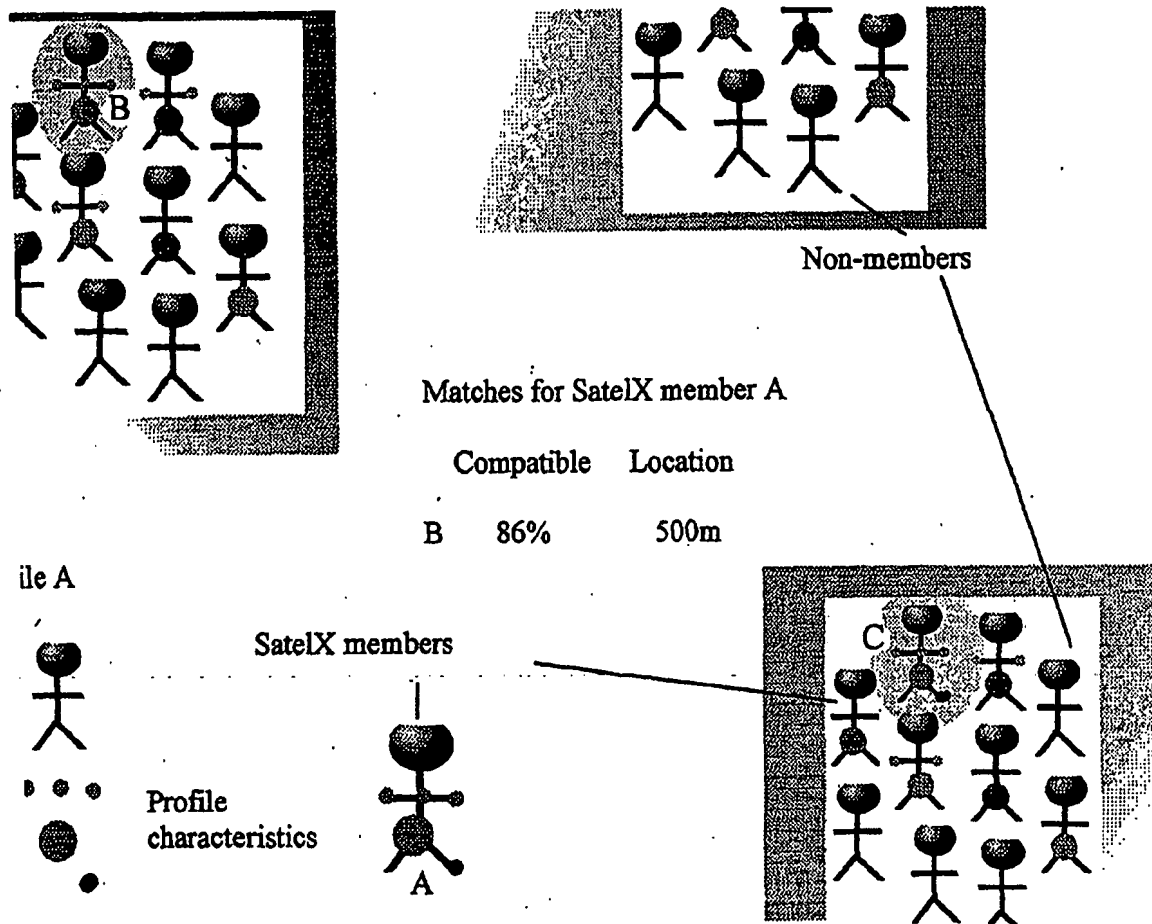


Diagram E - Compatibility matching per location

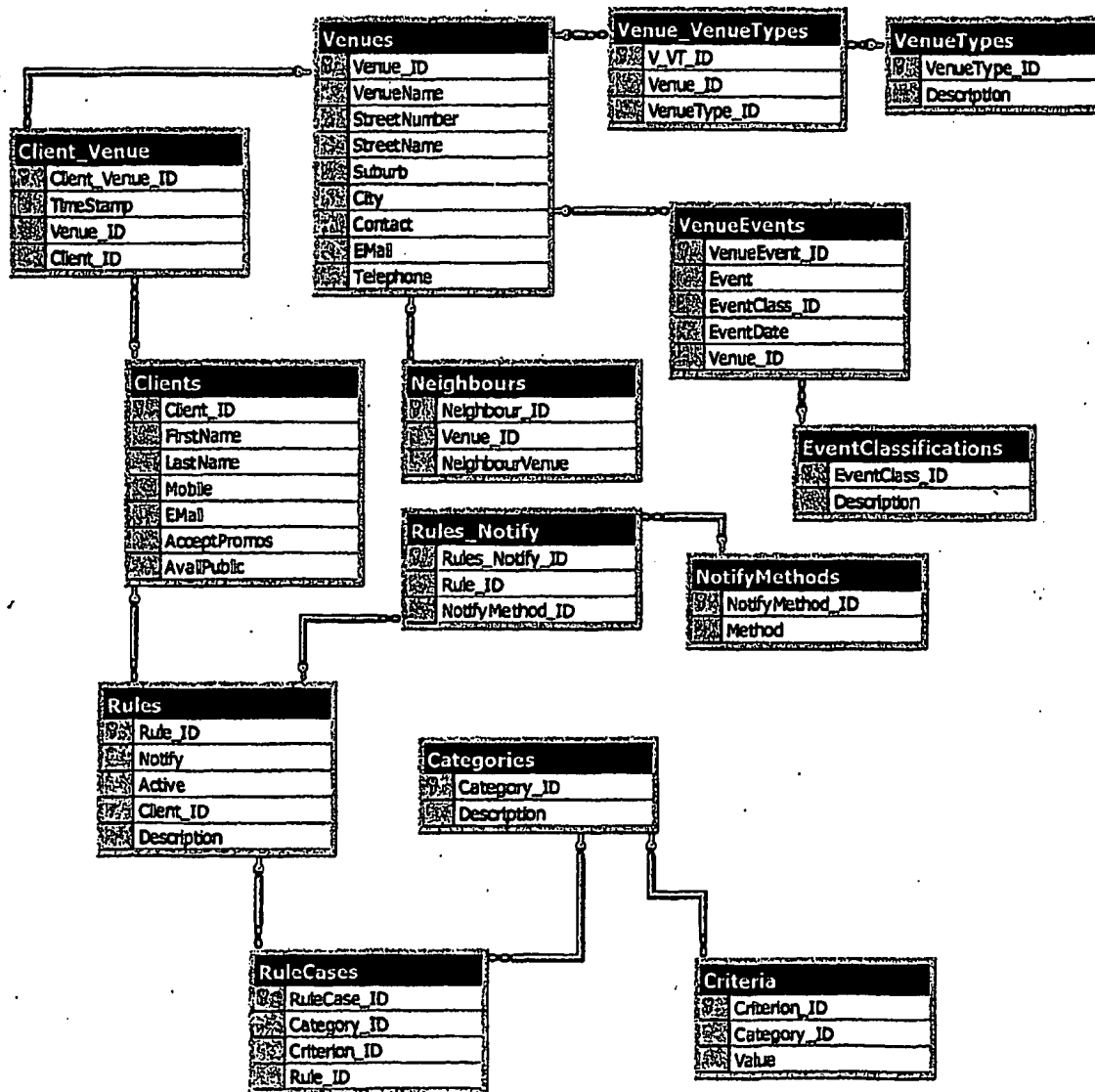


Note: this example shows compatibility matching between people. The system also enables the delivery of location relevant information services. In the above diagram, read member B instead as an information service that falls into the interest set and location radius of the user A.

Dg. F.

ENTITY RELATIONSHIP DIAGRAM

— NOT LIMITED TO ENTITIES SHOWN
BUT PROVIDED TO ENHANCE UNDERSTANDING ONLY



EXAMPLE OF CURRENT INTERNET DATING PROFILES

Female, 25 years old , 5' 4"/164cm, from Sydney - North, NSW.

[PHOTO]

Body type:	Slim
Eye colour:	Brown
Hair colour:	Dark Brown
Do you smoke?	Never
Drink?	Occasionally
Do you have children?	No
Do you want children?	Undecided
Ethnic background:	Other - Eurasian
Religion:	Not important
Education level:	Degree/Diploma
Political persuasion:	No strong beliefs
Vegetarian?	No
Personality type:	Social
Sign of the Zodiac:	Taurus

Interests

Music

BROAD taste including Jazz,R&B, Latin American, A capella, Classical and some top 40 tunes.

Reading

Well being, newspapers and academic articles. American Beauty, The Dead Poet's Society and foreign films. I LOVE a good dialogue.

Movies

Walking, swimming, yoga and gym workouts. Hmmm is eating a sport? :-)

Sport

I am known for my smile, cheekiness and affectionate nature. I thrive on music and laughter and I enjoy filling my life with both. I have lived in Japan and I hope to travel to Europe in the near future. I have a musical background and have also dabbled in acting and dance. I love the arts and cannot get enough of it! I am interested in finding theatre-going buddies(male or female) who are about my age. There is a lot of "arty farty" stuff in Sydney and it can be more fun if enjoyed with friends. If I have sparked your interest pls email me via [NAME OF SERVICE] or save your \$ and icq me on :-)

Ideal Partner....

Between 25 and 35 years old, from Sydney - City, who is a Male looking for Pen pal, or Just a friend relationships, or a Female looking for Pen pal, or Just a friend relationships.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU01/00740

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTERInt. Cl. ⁷: G06F 17/30, H04L 12/00, H04M 3/42, 3/493, 11/08, H04Q 7/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

USPTO, DWPI, JAPIO: location, mobile phone, internet, friend, subscriber, profile, message and similar terms

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5963951 A (COLLINS) 5 October 1999 Whole document	
A	US 6061681 A (COLLINS) 9 May 2000 Whole document	
A	WO 97/49192 A (AGNETELLI et al) 24 December 1997 Whole document	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C ☒ See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

31 August 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

7 SEPTEMBER 2001

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU01/00740

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 2000/22860 A (DEGNBOL) 20 April 2000 Whole document	
A	WO 2000/35216 A (OWENSBY) 15 June 2000 Whole document	
A	DE 19815924 A (KRETSCHMANN) 14 October 1999 Whole document	
P, A	EP 1037453 A (SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT) 20 September 2000 Whole document	
P, A	WO 2000/77979 A (GEOWORKS CORP) 21 December 2000 Whole document	
Note: While the citations have been classified as "A" documents, this is due to the indefinite nature of the claims, rather than any possible lack of relevance. The citations are relevant to the area of technology covered in the description.		

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/AU01/00740

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member	
US	5963951	CA	2241711
US	6061681	CA	2241713
WO	97/49192	AU	32733/97 IT RM960438
WO	2000/22860	AU	61882/99
WO	2000/35216	AU	18203/99
DE	19815924	NONE	
EP	1037453	NONE	
WO	2000/77979	AU	200057405
END OF ANNEX			